

## Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline to our school community Brunswick Secondary College's (BSC) beliefs and principles regarding homework. The policy aims to clarify how students, parents and the school can work together towards this end.

## Scope

This policy applies to students in all year levels, all subjects, and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Brunswick Secondary College.

## Rationale

At BSC, we believe that homework is about embedding study skills that foster independent learning and enabling students to develop skills for success.

The setting of homework can:

- Provide opportunities for students to review, revise, reflect and/or reinforce newly acquired skills
- Provide opportunities for students to apply new knowledge
- Provide opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons
- Encourage students to enrich or extend knowledge
- Foster good lifelong learning and study habits
- Support learning partnerships with parents/carers

## Definition

**Homework comprises** tasks that are purposefully designed and assigned by the teacher to enhance and enrich knowledge and skills. Homework tasks may connect to any phase of the BSC Instructional model.

Homework is the element of a learning activity that is designed to be completed outside of class time but should be commenced in class. It can also include study that is independently generated by the student.

As a student progresses through school their homework will include more independent study completed at home as well as tasks set by the teacher.

## Policy

At BSC we acknowledge the research that shows that homework is more effective when:

- It is set at an appropriate level for each student, supporting those who are experiencing difficulty and extending those of high ability
- It is related to essential learning at school
- Choice in tasks is provided
- It is checked by teachers, either formally or informally, with feedback provided
- It supports students to have a balance of school-related and non-school related activity in their lives (i.e. where the amount of homework set provides sufficient additional time for students to engage with family, sport and recreation, cultural pursuits and employment, where appropriate)

## Shared expectations and responsibilities

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students, and their parents/carers. To get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Responsibilities and expectations for **leaders at Brunswick Secondary College** are to:

- Advise teachers, students, and parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with access to the Homework Policy.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers at Brunswick Secondary College** are to:

- Set homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age
- Ensure homework tasks are purposeful – this means they are deliberately designed and planned to support student learning
- Provide timely and practical feedback on homework
- Ensure the amount of homework set supports a student to engage with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities outside of school hours
- Offer opportunities for families to engage in their child's learning.

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are to:

- Be aware of the school's Homework Policy
- Record homework tasks and due dates by using a diary, planner and/or Microsoft Teams
- Discuss homework expectations with their parents/carers
- Accept responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- Follow up on comments made by teachers
- Seek assistance when difficulties arise, including maintaining communication by checking email and Teams
- Organise their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities, and casual employment

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are to:

- Ensure there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family, and cultural activities
- Communicate with teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- Discuss homework with their child. For example, by linking homework to:
  - previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had
  - family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s)
  - relevant services, clubs, associations, and community
- Ensure there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework, if possible
- Engage with the digital platforms where work is given and submitted

## Support for students and parents/carers

Brunswick Secondary College understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If parents/carers are concerned their child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to communicate with their child's teacher, the relevant Head of Learning or Year Level Coordinator.

## Related policies and resources

- [Homework – Department Policy](#)

## Review period

This policy was last updated on 15/12/2021 and is scheduled for review on 15/12/2022